



STATEMENT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

McKinney: Food and agriculture to benefit from bold initiative

Note to the press: Please include the following statement from [Indiana State Department of Agriculture](#) (ISDA) Director, Ted McKinney, in your coverage of Governor Mike Pence's [plan](#) to invest \$1 billion over the next 10 years to advance innovation and entrepreneurship in Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS (July 14, 2016) – “As one of Indiana’s largest and most longstanding industries, food and agriculture will certainly benefit from this bold initiative. We have more than a head start with AgriNovus Indiana, our state’s agricultural innovation initiative, but this commitment opens the door to entirely new opportunities, which will move Indiana food and ag forward substantially.”

The 10-year plan, which centers on collaboration between government, education and research institutes, communities and the private sector, will advance Indiana’s current economic momentum and combat potential threats to growth, such as workforce shortages and the availability of capital.

Notable to Indiana agriculture, part of the plan includes increased support for industry-driven initiatives, such as [AgriNovus Indiana](#). Other important agricultural initiatives, like the Indiana Soybean Alliance Innovation Showcase as well as the work being done at Purdue University’s College of Agriculture, could also benefit from the plan.

Click [here](#) or visit www.iedc.in.gov for a press release which includes additional information on the specific initiatives and funding mechanisms associated with the plan.

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ABOUT ISDA

The [Indiana State Department of Agriculture](#) (ISDA) was established as a separate state agency by the Legislature in 2005. The Director is appointed by the Governor and is a member of the Governor’s Cabinet. Administratively, ISDA reports to [Lt. Governor Eric Holcomb](#), who also serves as Indiana’s Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. Major responsibilities include advocacy for Indiana agriculture at the local, state and federal level, managing soil conservation programs, promoting economic development and agricultural innovation, serving as a regulatory ombudsman for agricultural businesses, and licensing grain firms throughout the state.

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